South Winneshiek Community School District
School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC)

April 17, 2024, 4:30 pm
Boardroom, Calmar

District Vision: The vision of the South Winneshiek School District, with shared responsibility of school, home, and community, is to provide the best teaching and learning environment while developing skills needed to develop life-long learners.

District Mission: The mission of the South Winneshiek Community School District program is to assist and ensure that every student achieves his/her level of educational excellence in the areas of academic, career, and social/emotional development through a collaborative partnership with students, family, educators, and community.

Agenda/Minutes

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

2. Members present: **Sara Bernhard, Jenni Busarow, Steven Carnesi, Connie Euans, Sam Gansen, Clark Goltz, Jason Halverson, Mary Kleve, Jodi Nelson, Pat Schissel, Brennan Williams, Nicole Wiltgen**

3. The agenda was approved as presented.

4. New Business

A. Learner Profiles Update – Mr. Halverson and Mr. Williams shared the latest developments of the Learner Profiles. The profile will focus on four pillars: creativity, communication, creative thinking and citizenship. The staff will continue to develop appropriate “I Can" Statements appropriate for each of the four pillars. Students will be asked to add some graphics to the final format of the Learning Profiles.

B. Mr. Halverson and Mr. Williams summarized the background and results from the required Condition of Learning Survey. All Iowa public school districts are using Conditions or Learning Surveys results to improve safety, student engagement and the overall learning environment.

Two versions of the survey were administered to students; one for students in grades 3-5 and one for students in grades 6-12. The information from the

Surveys provides information that may be used by a school building to identify their strengths and weaknesses, and serves as a foundation on which to build an action plan for improving the learning environment for all students. Relevant results from the survey for the South Winneshiek CSD included.

The State of Iowa is going away from the Conditions for Learning Surveys for the next school year and will instead focus on chronic absenteeism for the next school year. The Iowa Legislature approved a bill aimed at regulating public school students' attendance and requiring the development of an attendance improvement plan for chronically absent students. The bill defines a "chronically absent student" as a student who has missed at least 10% of the school days in the prior year for any reason. Whenever a student is chronically absent, the student or their guardian, a representative of the school, and a representative of the county attorney will meet to develop and sign an attendance improvement plan. The county attorney's representative will provide the relevant state laws relating to attendance requirements, penalties for violation, and any exceptions to these requirements.

C. Updates from Building Principals

a. Mr. Halverson - Focus this year has been on older students in the school assisting younger students. These provided great opportunities for personal growth for both students. Field trips are a real focus for the spring. Ryan Sloth, athlete and author, spoke with students about bullying".

Mr. Williams

a. High school students met with middle school students to connect with them about coming into the high school.
b. Student recognitions included: Max Moonen - National Merit Scholar. Josie Tieskoetter Wayne E. Cooley Scholarship Finalist
c. Continued student success in fine arts, athletics and other co-curricular activities

E. Announcements

a. Next Meeting: October 16, 2024, 4:30 pm, Boardroom, Calmar

5. Adjournment – 5:00 pm

Tentative meeting dates for 2024-2025:

1. Wednesday, October 16, 2024, 4:30 pm, Boardroom, Calmar
2. Wednesday, January 15, 2025, 4:30 pm, Boardroom, Calmar
3. Wednesday, April 16, 2025, 4:30 pm, Boardroom, Calmar